

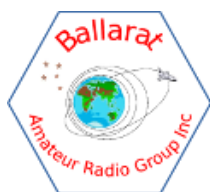


BARG Newsletter



Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc. #6953T
April 2024 Monthly Newsletter

Next Meeting General BARG inc
11:00am, Saturday 27th of April 2024
At the Airport - All Welcome



Contacting us
BARG@BARG.ORG.AU

We're on the web.

www.barg.org.au

https://twitter.com/vk3_barg

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/VK3BML/>



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Times and dates of nets as below

Club Nets: VHF NET: Every Tuesday Night at 8 pm on 146.750 MHz - VK3RBA

HF NET: Every Thursday Night at 8 pm on 3.608 MHz - VK3BML

6m NET: Every Tuesday Night at 8:30 pm on 53.650Mhz RX / 52.650Mhz TX - FM
with a 91.5 tone - VK3RWU

LINKED REPEATERS: The local VK3RBA-70cm repeater on Mt Buninyong is part of a network
of linked repeaters covering North-Western Victoria.

Access details for this repeater have recently changed.

For full details of this linked network and access details see <https://www.grz.com/lookup/vk3rba>

You can listen to the system live <http://vk3rba.dyndns.org:441/>

This linked system may be accessed via IRLP node 9503.



President's Report April 2024



There is not a great deal this month to put out as a President's Report. This month is going to be short.

The fences and Gate at the clubrooms have been fixed/replaced. The backyard is secure again.

Thank you to all that took part in the survey, I also would like to thank those who's idiocy or lack of smarts showed and tried to play politics in the comments, your stupidity has been noted.

VK3RBT on Greenhill will be getting out a little bit more but more work will be required. Some talk on this and a call to setup a small team may happen at the General meeting.

The results of the survey will be made available at the general meeting as well.

That's it as I mention at the start short for this month.

Ben VK3NRD.



The Next BARG General Meeting 11:00am, Saturday 27th of April 2024

The Next BARG Construction Day 1:00pm, Saturday 4th of May 2024

The George Fowler Auction Sunday 26th May

BARG inc. OFFICE BEARERS

President	Ben Daniel VK3NRD	Ordinary Member	Tom George VK3DMK
Vice President	Colin Consiglio VK3NCC	Ordinary Member	Ian Fairweather VK3YFD
Secretary	Peter Westgarth VK3APW	Ordinary Member	Doug Ellery VK3DRE
Treasurer	Chris Huggins VK3QY	Ordinary Member	David Martin VK3KQT
Ordinary Member	Craig Cook VK3KG	Ordinary Member	Mal White VK3OAK
Ordinary Member	Lachlan Macdonald VK3ALM		

BARG Coffee Mornings

The coffee morning, 4th April 2024 was a record attendance, 20 in all, with some new faces.

Come out for a chat, coffee, snack, and solve the world's problems.
all in a morning.



Every Thursday Morning at 10:00 am
Food Seduction on Doveton
524 Doveton St Nth
Soldiers Hill

(The old Gove Bike Shop)

AM and CW on ANZAC Day – Radio Amateurs Remember

25th April 2024



The traditional AM & CW event organised by Mike "Banjo" Patterson VK4MIK and the Tablelands Radio Group of Far North Queensland, will again take to the air for the 10th year.

This is not a contest. It honours those modes used by service personnel in earlier wars.

The event idea came from a telephone conversation between Mike "Banjo" Patterson VK4MIK and World War II Coastwatcher in Papua New Guinea, Lionel Veale.

He set up his ATR4A HF radio and orientated the antenna from behind enemy lines.

Lionel was one of those brave Coastwatchers who sent back vital information.

The concept developed by the Tableland Radio Group in Far North Queensland basically asks us to consider changing modes on ANZAC Day nets, as an honour and Amateur Radio salute to those who served or are serving.

The annual event involves ex-military sites and related museums. It includes most of the radio nets happening on ANZAC Day throughout Queensland.

The Townsville Amateur Radio Club have been asked to anchor the event throughout the day and will be operating from the Clubrooms at West End using the callsign AX4ATV. The Clubrooms are part of a camouflage structure that was placed on top of the RAAF Communications HQ (project 81) during WW2.

Thanks to the organising and planning by Ray/AX4OIL, some hams and support crew will be activating the historic World War 2 Oonoonba Bombing Site running portable stations on Amplitude Modulation and highlighting the need for the site to be preserved by the Queensland Government as an important commemoration site for community use.

Matman/AX4GUN will be operating from his radio room in AM at Carlyle Gardens in Condon, a penultimate resting place for many a veteran.

More stations and nets will be also operating and switching to the old modes during the day.

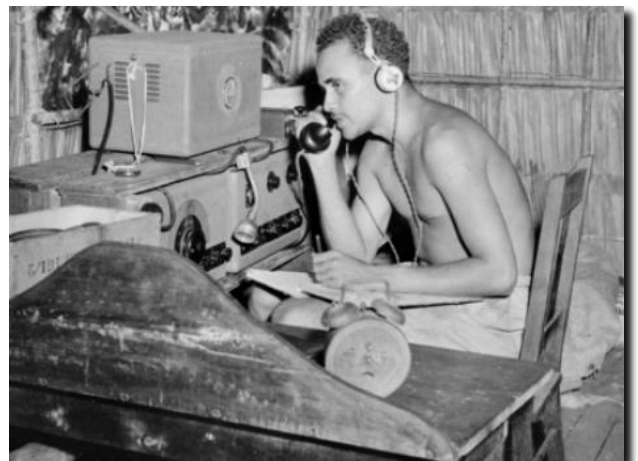
Many Amateurs joined our Defence forces and took their skills into their service lives in a wide range of activities such as Coastwatchers, Air Force Radio operators, Radar operators and repair, navy radio operators and Army operations.

Over the weekend following ANZAC Day the AMRO event will happen – Australian Military Radio Operators and their converted Military Radios will be on the air – website at

<http://110.232.143.96/~ww2armyr/AMRO/amro.htm>

LEST WE FORGET

de VK4MIK Mike ex RAN - vk4mike@yahoo.com.au



BARG Members Club Dining Events.

There are two monthly social events planned.

The ladies' morning coffee is planned for the first Tuesday morning of each month at 10:00am at **Live it Up.**

Greenhill Enterprise Centre, University Drive, Mt Helen

The dining day/night event is planned to be held on the 3rd Friday of each month at locations to be announced.

Daytime events will occur during daylight savings months and then change to night time when daylight savings ends.

Notices will be sent out as a reminder to get numbers etc prior to booking each dinner.

Cheers. Ian VK3AXH

Friday Night Dinner

The Grapes, Friday 19th April.



Good company, great food._

The Kingsley AR7 Receiver a part of WW2 Australian Radio History

Contributor Tom VK3DMK



Howard Kingsley Love started the Kingsley Radio company in Melbourne, Victoria, in 1931. The R.A.A.F (Royal Australian Air Force) produced a specification for an Australian made high performance communications receiver. The Kingsley Radio company designed a receiver called the K/CR/11 and submitted it.

It was adopted as the AR7. The RAAF placed an initial order for 20 receivers.

The Army also adopted this receiver as the Reception Set No.1 and it had an engraved brass panel with a black background.

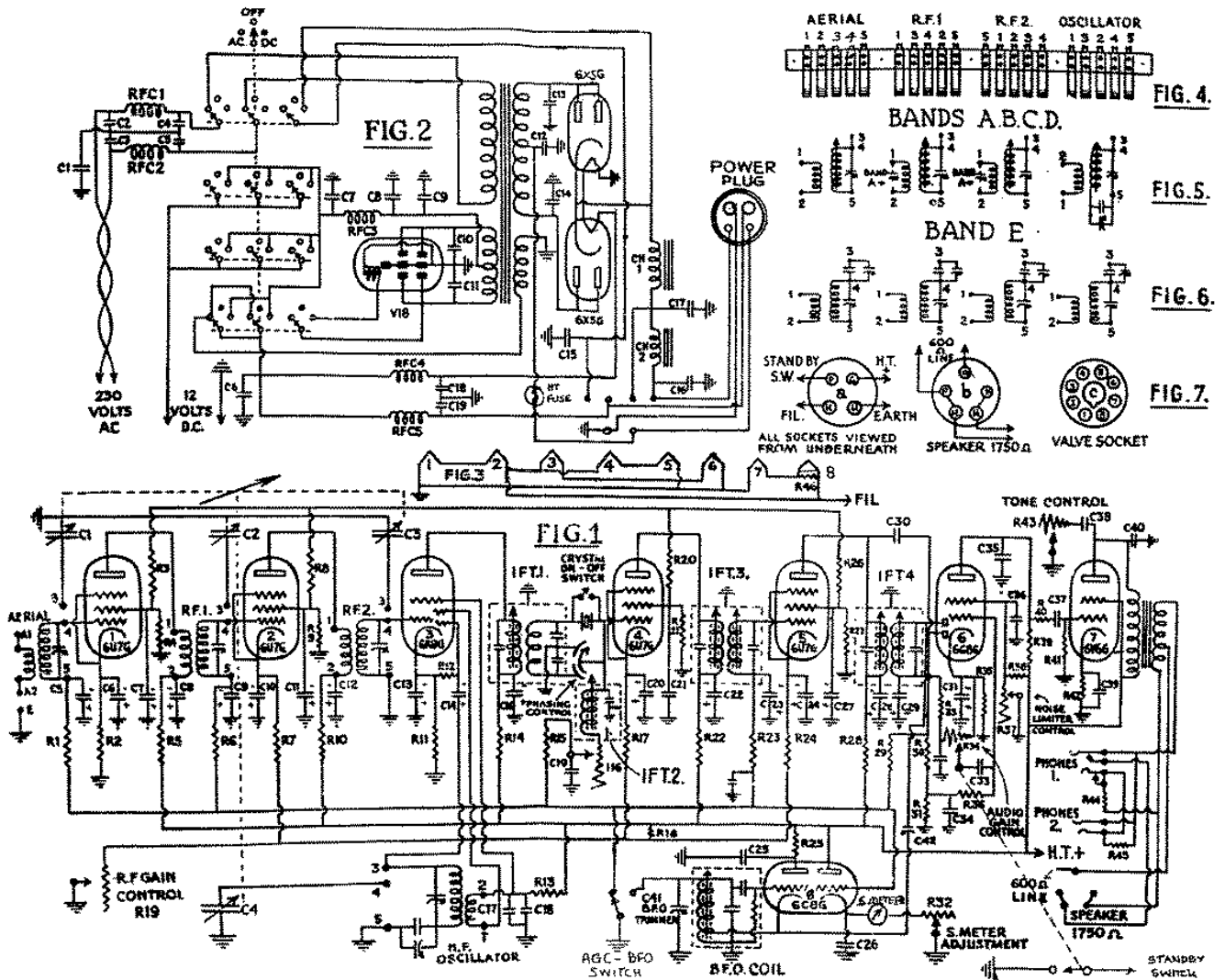
About 3500 of these were built and supplied to not only the RAAF in Australia but also to the Services in New Zealand and USA. The Army also called it Army Reception Unit No1. The tuning system was very much based on that of the very popular National HRO.

Designed for LF and HF bands it was capable of AM and SSB reception, having a BFO control. The front panel controls comprised of: RF gain, BFO note, AVC/BFO switch, adjust "S" meter, Tone, Tuning, Noise limiter, Selectivity, Crystal IN/OUT switch, Crystal Phasing, Audio gain and using 10 valves. The Audio gain control included an OFF position which removes the HT so that the coil boxes can be changed.

This was the main feature of this receiver, instead of a band switch and its complexities, the relevant tuned components were assembled in a plugin module, with a calibration graph on the front of the panel.



KINGSLEY COMMUNICATION RECEIVER - TYPE K/CR/11



Over the years the AR7 has been modified for military and civilian use and has graced the bench of many amateur radio operators.



https://armyradio.com/AR-7_Receiver.html

<https://www.tuberadio.com/robinson/museum/AR7/>

<https://www.kurrajongradiomuseum.com.au/ar7.htm>

BARG Emails and the Big Puddle.

Recently BARG transitioned from a self-hosted membership email distribution system across to a robust paid subscription ([GROUPS.IO](https://groups.io))

This has proved to be much more reliable than our previous system. The change allows BARG members the ability to search archives whilst reducing the administrative overhead on our part.

SPAM, unsolicited phishing emails where the inevitable Persian (or is it Nigerian) prince wanting to bestow their riches on anyone who is willing to reply, is on the increase.

Email providers (the organisations after the "@" sign in your email address) are being much more aggressive in trying to block this onslaught.

The unfortunate and unintended byproduct of this aggressiveness is that sometimes legitimate email is not being delivered.

We have noticed this occurring for some of our members and most particularly those who have email addresses that are hosted or provided by BIGPOND and/or TELSTRA. It will also affect users who have their email carried through these providers as well.

Please be aware if you have a Bigpond email address you are probably **not getting all of the emails being sent to you**, particularly those sent to groups emails - these could include local committee, newsletters, local government community updates, business brochures and updates, school newsletters and updates, sporting club memberships etc (the list is endless).

Possibly due to the number of emails that might be received in a short time, Bigpond is treating these emails as **spam**. The rejection is not consistent and can be erratic.

There is little that the **sender** (*that's any member of the BARG mailing list who posts an email*) can do to fix this problem (other than **sending the email individually with a different email title for each Bigpond email and that's not really practicable** or possible and defeats the purpose of an email list.).

How do you know if you are affected? Consider the following:

- Do you have an "[@bigpond.com](https://bigpond.com)", "@Telstra.com address"?
- Do you suspect not receiving all email?
- Have you received an email from a member, but don't recall seeing the original email that they are replying to?
- Have you received the last BARG newsletter?

If you are affected, what can you do?

- Being aware of the possible problem is most important.
- The receiver (that's you, the Bigpond email address owner) can **change email settings** to record each specific email as 'safe' however this is laborious and time consuming. Interestingly, TELSTRA has **stated this is the only way currently to resolve the problem**.
- You could move to a generic (not connected to a provider) email platform, something like @Gmail.Com, @Yahoo.com, [@Yahoo.com.AU](https://yahoo.com.au), @Hotmail.com, [@outlook.com](https://outlook.com).

However some of these might also start to behave in a defensive manner, and you have to tell all your friends that you are now using a new email address.

- You could create a [GROUPS.IO](https://groups.io) account (free) using the SAME email address that you are receiving BARG emails to, sign in and you will be able to browse the entire archive of emails. You should be able to identify any emails that you have not received directly. If you choose to go down this track, fire up your trusty browser, go to Groups.io, and hit the SIGN UP Button at the top right hand corner.

The last two suggestions are recommended. My email address is non provider specific; I have always received all emails.

Hope the information has been useful; If you need some assistance, just ask.

Regards Colin VK3NCC



The MDRC Annual Hamfest is held in May on a Saturday.

The 2024 MDRC Hamfest will be held on Saturday the 11th of May.

The MDRC Hamfest is widely renowned as the Biggest Hamfest in Victoria, with a huge turnout each year.

Many attendees travel great distances to attend the MDRC Annual Hamfest from Interstate and overseas.

In 2024 the MDRC Hamfest will be held at the Kingston City Hall 979-985 Nepean Hwy, Moorabbin VIC 3189.

Ticket sales from 9.30am. Doors open at 10.00am

70 car spaces on site and more parking behind shops on Western side of Nepean Hwy

“WINNIE THE WAR WINNER” – MAPE, PORTUGUESE TIMOR APRIL 20, 1942

In March of 1942 the forces commander, of Sparrow Force that was deployed to defend Portuguese Timor began to reorganise and redeploy his troops in the southern half of the region as the Japanese continued to advance.

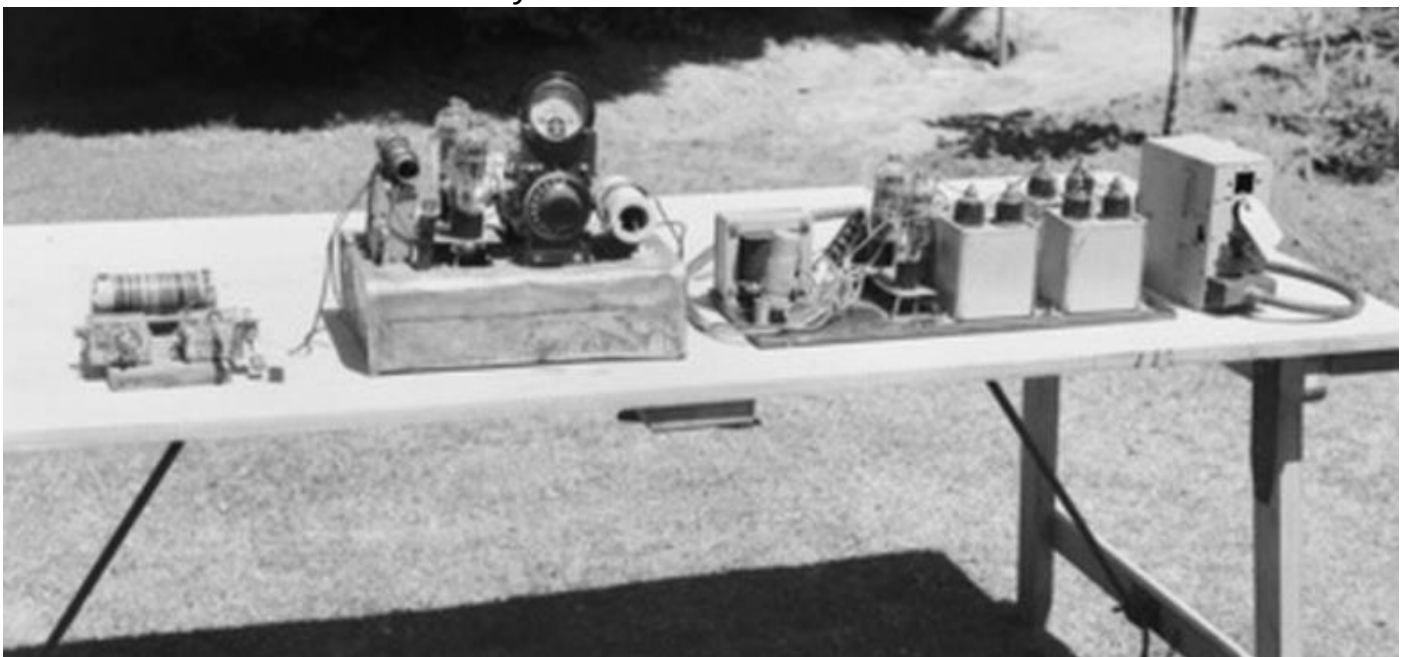
Australian troops began a regime of guerrilla warfare under the most extreme conditions with of low levels of supply and isolation from Australia.

Men of the 2nd Independent Company, the fortress signals section on the island, and members of Signals, 8th Division, pooled their resources to build a set capable of raising Darwin. The most expert and tireless of these was Signalman ‘Joe’ Loveless. His technical ingenuity and skill were assisted by the professional electrical engineering expertise of Captain G.E. Parker from Dutch Timor.

Many dangerous missions were made into enemy territory to retrieve any radio equipment remaining in the area.

After many trials and much revision, Australia was contacted on the April 20, 1942, and Darwin was made aware that the Australians in Timor were alive and well.

The set was affectionately named "Winnie the War Winner".



A lot of articles have been written about the men left behind with many stories of obtaining gear and then proving to the radio operators in Darwin that they were not a Japanese decoy.

These links help tell a very moving story of a group of men who were at one stage thought to have been captured/killed by the invading enemy, and who after discovery provided a valuable source of intelligence to the war in our part of the world.

<https://doublereds.org.au/forums/topic/351-winnie-the-war-winner-%E2%80%93-mape-portuguese-timor-april-20-1942-80-years-on/#comment-879>

<https://thejavagoldblog.wordpress.com/background-info-book-1/airplanes/royal-dutch-east-indies-army-knil/the-australian-dutch-guerrillas-on-timor/>

SIGNALLERS' SKILL SAVED LOST FORCE

From The Argus, January 1st, 1943.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/11a341432/621132>

An Epic of Ingenuity By BILL MARIEN

"Force Intact. Still Fighting. Badly Need Boots, Money, Quinine, Tommygun, Ammunition."

This was the first official message received in Australia from the lost AIF commandos of Portuguese Timor who, for 59 days after the Japanese landing on the island, had been written off as missing or dead.

The signal came to Darwin on the night of April 19. It was transmitted by "Winnie the War Winner," a crazy contraption built from scraps of wire and tin, and pieces of long discarded radio sets.

When the commandos showed me the incredible Winnie recently, it was easy to recapture the scene of that night of April 19.

In the thin air of a Timor Mountain hideout, 4 bearded, haggard Australians were working by the smoking, stinking light of a pig-fat flare. Three of them watched anxiously as the fourth thumbed a Morse key. Weak batteries sent the dots and dashes of the morse dimly across the Arafura Sea to the Northern Territory of Australia. The tension was something physical as the operator strained his ears for a reply. At last, a reply came.

From February 19, when the Japanese landed at Dilli, nothing had been heard of the AIF commando force which had been in Portuguese Timor since December 17, 1941. And the commandos had heard nothing from the rest of the world. They did not even know that Dutch Timor had fallen until other Australians fought through to Portuguese Timor and told them. There was little prospect of building a radio. There were no parts, no new batteries. The sets they had were too weak to raise Darwin.

But among those who came from Koepang were 2 signalmen, Cpl John Sargeant, of Bonshaw, NSW, and Lance-Cpl John Donovan, of Lindfield, NSW. These 2 men got together, working under Capt. George Parker, of Earlwood, NSW, with Sigs Max (Joe) Loveless, of Hobart, and K. Richards, of Victoria, 2

members of the original commando force, and agreed that Darwin must be raised.

On March 8 the 4 men got to work — Loveless just out of sick bed and Sargeant just recovered from malaria. Three days later a Dutch sergeant, exhausted, stumbled in. He had carried what he thought to be a transmitter-receiver 40 miles through some of the roughest country in the world. It was an ordinary commercial medium-wave receiving set and out of order.

CORPORAL WENT SCROUNGING

Loveless, whose knowledge made him No 1 man of the team, thought he could build a one-valve transmitter from parts of this set and of another small and weak set. He planned a circuit, and all the commandos were asked to be on the lookout for anything that might serve as a radio part.

Cpl Donovan went scrounging at Attamboa, on the north coast, to see what he could salvage, while his companions recovered an abandoned army set. The parts of the 3 sets were unsoldered, and a bamboo used to catch all the melted solder for reuse. Loveless had carefully preserved 2 small batteries, but they needed recharging. A generator was taken from an abandoned 10-year-old car and rigged to a series of wooden wheels, which a native was persuaded to turn. The set was complete on March 26.

It would not work!

The 4 signallers had been working with a tomahawk, pliers, and screwdriver. They had no means of establishing a known transmitting wave-length. The coils were wound round lengths of bamboo.

On March 28 Donovan returned from Attamboa laden like a treasure ship. He had the power pack from a Dutch transmitter, 2 aerial tuning condensers, 60ft of aerial wire in short lengths, and a receiving set. Next day the men had to move all their precious gear, for the Japanese were getting too close.

Loveless got to work on a second transmitter twice as big as the first and built into a 4-gallon kerosene tin. A battery charger was

recovered from enemy held territory. To get it 14 commandos went through the Japanese lines to the old Australian headquarters at Villa Maria. There, within 100 yards of Japanese sentries, protected only by the dark, they dug up the charger which had been buried when the headquarters were evacuated.

HEARD DARWIN WAS SAFE

On April 10 the signallers heard Darwin on the receiver and knew then that Darwin was still in Australian hands. But their second transmitter was also a failure.

Loveless had another idea, but he needed more batteries. Four were found. Then the petrol ran out and the charger could not be kept running. So they raided the Japanese lines and carried off tins of kerosene. Finally, the charger was started oil kerosene and run on diesel oil.

With batteries at full strength, they signalled Darwin on' April 18, but got no reply. They did not know that their message had been picked up on the Australian mainland and passed on to Darwin, that all transmitting stations had been warned to keep off the air and listen to Timor the following night.

On the night of April 19, they got an answer from Darwin. Then their batteries failed again. But the 4 signallers celebrated by smoking a tin of tobacco which they had saved since leaving Attamboa.

BUT DARWIN SUSPICIOUS

On the night of April 20, they again got Darwin. But Darwin was suspicious; demanded proof of their identity. So, questions and answers like these were rushed across the Arafura Sea:

"Do you know Bill Jones?"— "Yes, he's with us."

"What rank, and answer immediately?"— "Captain."

"Is he there? Bring him to the transmitter. . . . What's your wife's name, Bill?"— "Joan."

"What's the street number of your home?"

Back came the right answer, and the mainland accepted the fact that the commandos were still fighting.

The commanding officer of the force told me with feeling that but for the amazing job done by these 4 signallers they would not have been able to contact Australia.

"I don't like to think what might have happened if we had not got through," he said.

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SUITS**
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Men's Ready-to-wear
3-piece Sac Suits of
Fancy Worsted, in
Brown. Well cut, good
trimmings, and well
lined. COUPONS RE-
QUIRED, 38.

Also 3-piece Suits, in
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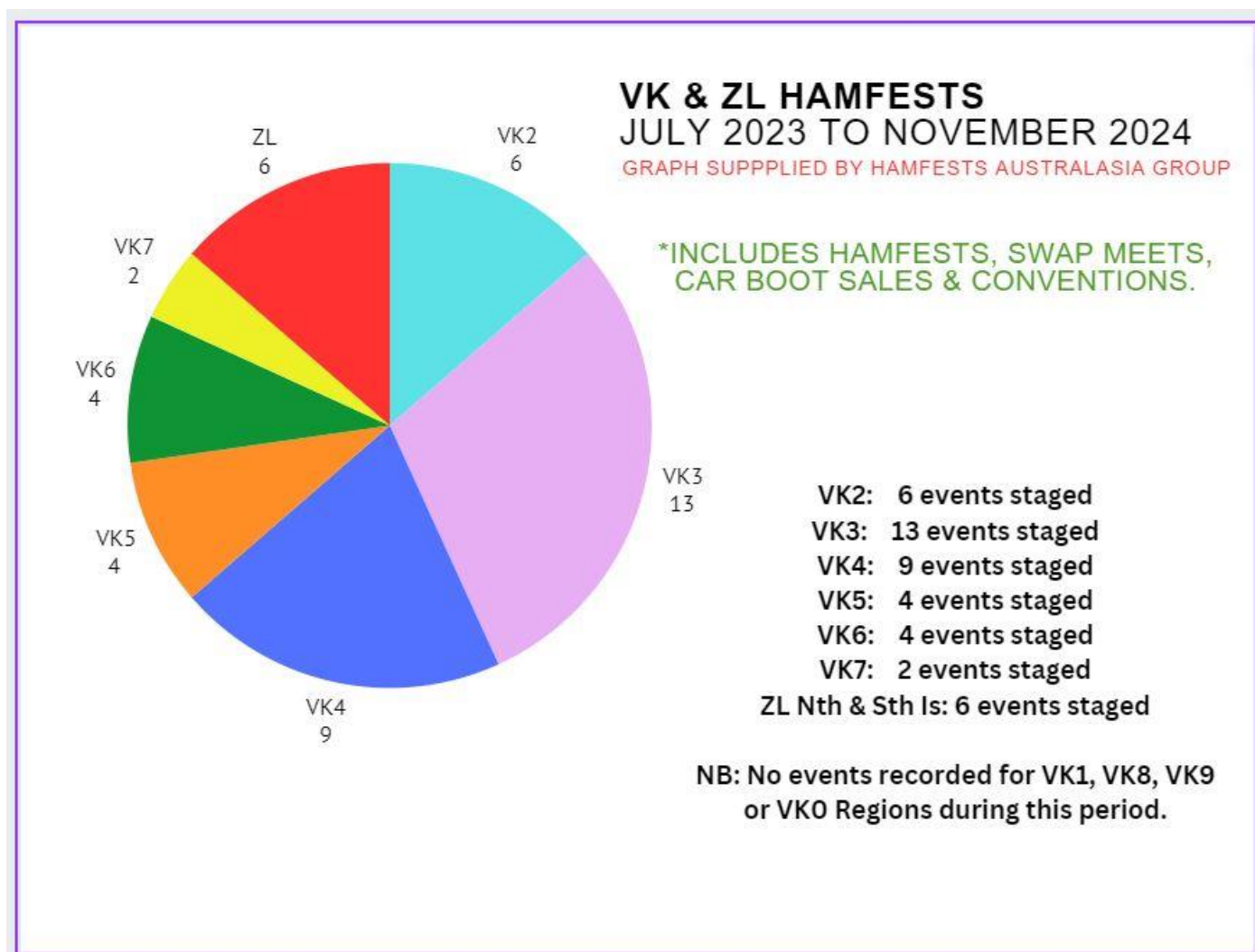
COUPONS REQUIRED, 38.
MEN'S SUITS — THE FLOOR

**Men's Scotch Grain
ZEBU SHOES**
With or With-
out Toccaps. **39/6**
Welled soles. Full or
Half Sizes. Coupons 12.
Ground Floor.

BUCKLEY'S
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Australia Hamfests Stats



Thanks; Mark Bruechert, Hamfests Australasia.

A tally of events staged or listed between July 2023 & December 2024, state by state for VK, with ZL (North. & South Is. combined).

Events include hamfests, radiofests, car boot sales, swap meets, conventions & other publicly accessible events. Total events listed with & promoted by Hamfests Australasia Group for this period is 44 events.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1675116319317400>

(Mark's Hamfests Australasia helps spread amateur radio clubs many events around Australasia through his Facebook page. Tom VK3DMK)

The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.

BARG VK Powermaster MKII

Contributor Peter VK3APW

Following the acquisition of BARG's new HF/6M transceiver, it was thought that some testing of the available club power supplies was prudent. This was performed during the April construction day, using a dedicated DC load, capable of just over 20A.

The main contender, in this testing was a VK Powermaster Kit PSU from Dick Smith. Under load, the supply held up, just short of 8A, then buckled. Opening the case revealed a mains transformer of unknown parentage, and possibly had been rewound.



The supply may only have been intended for much lighter duty, when constructed, but for this application, the computer says NO.

Further investigation shows that the only real thing wrong was the choice of transformer. A rummage through the junk box, revealed a preloved toroid transformer type M2132. This transformer is electrically equivalent to the M2010 specified in the original design.

TABLE 1: Current Ratings ¹			
	Basic with M-2000 transformer	Basic with M-2010 transformer	Upgraded ² with M-2010 transformer
Continuous	5A	8A	15A ³
Peak (1 min.)	10A	20A	20A
Surge (pulse)	25A	25A	25A

Notes:

1. Conditions are 240V AC input, 25 °C ambient temperature.
2. Upgrade consists of adding a DSE H-3470 heatsink to the bridge rectifier, a Y-8507 12V cooling fan to the case and a 1000uF 16VW electro and 1mH filter choke to the PCB.
3. The 15A limit is determined by the 2A primary circuit fuse. However this fuse rating must not be increased as it is designed to fail before the internal and non-resettable thermal fuse in the M-2010 transformer.

Fitting this transformer was reasonably easy, only requiring relocating a small transistor used to drive the main output transistors. To maintain reliability, the whole circuit board was resoldered and cleaned.

An internal fuse was fitted in line with the current meter, and inside the voltage sensing loop, so as not to incur further voltage drops.

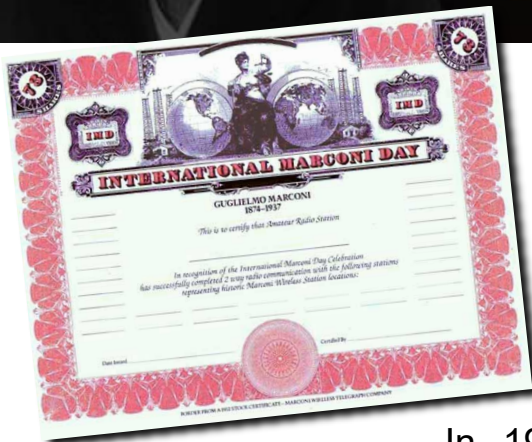
The output voltage under a full continuous (1 min) load shows <150mV drop at the binding posts of the supply, with no change in ripple (<10mV). Most of the voltage drop is due to the binding posts and the interconnecting leads from the PCB. It was not felt necessary to address this, as the power cable will drop way more than this in any case.

International Marconi Day

INTERNATIONAL MARCONI DAY

SATURDAY APRIL 27th 2024

**Founded & Organised by The Cornish Radio Amateur Club
www.gb4imd.co.uk**



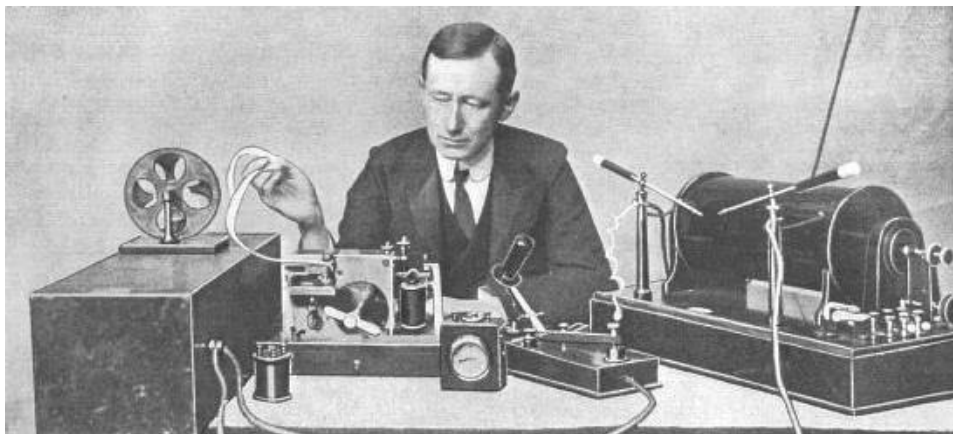
In 1900 Marconi came to Cornwall to set up an experimental wireless station, eventually choosing a site at Poldhu Cove on the Lizard peninsula. Sir Ambrose Fleming was responsible for much of the design of the Poldhu station. The first experimental signals only travelled a short distance but on 12th. Dec. 1901 the first transatlantic radio signal from Poldhu, was picked up at St. Johns, Newfoundland, some 1800 miles (2880 km.), by an aerial held aloft by Marconi's kites. It was the prearranged letter 'S' sent in Morse code.

Below is a link to a list of participating stations;

<https://gx4crc.com/imd/official-imd-stations-2023/>

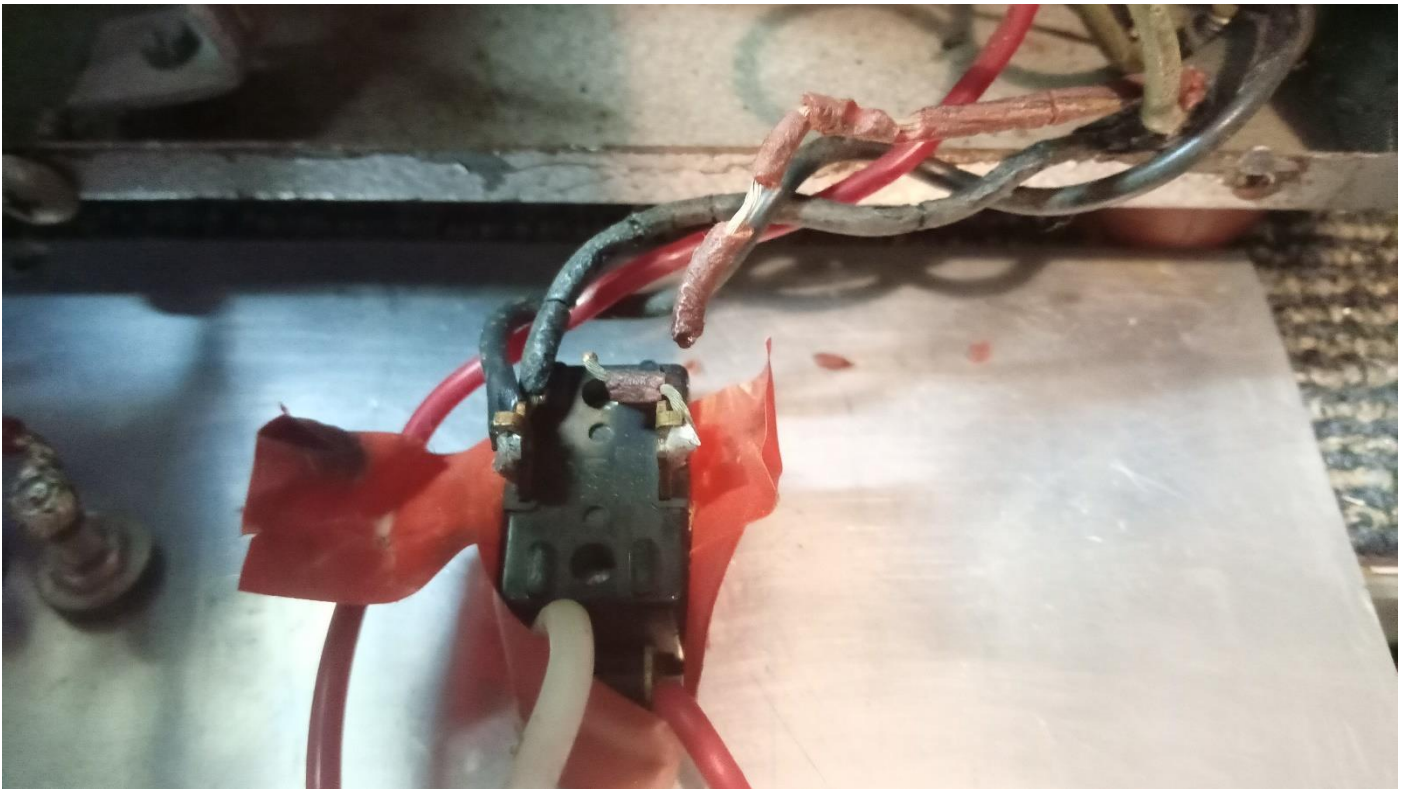
And for an award certificate;

<https://gx4crc.com/imd/imd-award/>



Beware What Lurks Behind the Front Panel

Contributor. Anonymous



When you buy that bit of gear with unknown history!!!!!!

Bendigo Amateur Radio and Electronics Group Mills on the Air



From May 11th to May 12th the Bendigo Amateur Radio and Electronics Group will be operating from Anderson Mill, Smeaton, Victoria.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/423637578704123/>

Woods' Farming and Heritage Museum in Rapunypap

Contributor Colin C Consiglio

There are little museums all over the Victorian country side.

The majority have their beginnings in individuals who just start collecting and storing stuff away in the back shed.

Eventually this stuff outgrows it's location and something more permanent results, and typically supported by a lot more people.

Woods' Farming and Heritage Museum in Rapunypap is one such place.

As one reviewer wrote " It's an eclectic collection of a lifetime!! If you just can't be bothered with another museum, be bothered to see this one. It's astounding! And you don't have to love tractors!!!! There's even a cuppa and bickie in the offing!!!"

So why am I writing about this in our Newsletter?

Look what I found when I visited;

3AB	12.30 PM	R2	DC	R6	RAC	✓
5TH	10.00 PM	R6	RAC	R2.4	RAC	✓
207 12	12.00 PM	R6.7	RAC	R6	RAC	✓
3PM	1.20 PM	R6	RAC	R5.6	RAC	✓
30F	4.20 PM	R4	DC	R7	RAC	✓
3RP	10.40 PM	R4.6	RAC	R7	RAC	✓
3HR	10.40 PM	R4	RAC	R5	RAC	✓
3NF	1.30 PM	R4	AC	R5	RAC	✓
2HT	2.10 PM	R2.4	RAC	R6	RAC	✓
3HC	10.40 PM	R2.6	RAC	R6	RAC	✓
2JC	1.30 PM	R3.6	RAC	R6	RAC	✓
3UT	1.00 PM	R5	RAC	R5	RAC	✓
3JT	1.30 PM	R7	RAC	R5	RAC	✓
3ML	10.40 PM	R6	RAC	R5	RAC	✓
2TH	1.00 PM	R6	RAC	R5	RAC	✓
3WH	1.6 PM	R2	DC	R4	RAC	✓
2NH	2.6 PM	R5	NDC	R3.6	RAC	✓
3TB	2.6 PM	R5	RAC	R5	RAC	✓
4AL	4.6 PM	R5	RAC	R4	RAC	✓
7EH	11.40 PM	R4.6	NDC	R6	RAC	✓
3BP	6.40 PM	R5	NDC	R6	RAC	✓
5MR	9.6 PM	R6	DC	R2.5	RAC	✓
2EK	10.4 PM	R3.4	DC	R4	RAC	✓
3DR	2.30 PM	R5	RAC	R6	RAC	✓
2AS	9.4 PM	R4.6	DC	R4	RAC	✓
3AB	9.4 PM	R7	RAC	R9	RAC	✓
3PF	10.0 PM	R3	DC	R6	RAC	✓
2NS	1.6 PM	R5.6	RAC	R6.7	RAC	✓
3SB	4.0 PM	R5	RAC	R7	RAC	✓
3CD	10.4 PM	R4	RAC	R5	RAC	✓



Yes,
a

hand written logbook from 1928 !!

Harold Boast VK3AX, Chief Technician



An insulator from radio 3LK's radio mast

Note the neatly twisted wires... no

solder in sight.

Amateur Radio was and still is everywhere.

And it's not too far from the Murtoa Stickshed either... another place well worth a visit.

Cheers... Colin VK3NCC

<https://www.facebook.com/WoodsMuseum.Rapunypap/>



Entry \$10
(Kids Free!)



National Convention and AGM

TOP PRIZE

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Multiplex Bundaberg – 1 Civic Ave, Bundaberg West
SAT/SUN – May 4th/5th 2024

Don't miss an Exciting weekend full of Interesting activities!

- **Commercial Expo** – see the latest radio equipment from ICOM Australia, Elite Communications, Jaycar and other vendors.
- **Hamfest** – grab a bargain from amateurs selling new and used radios and electronic equipment.
- Interesting talks by **Guest Speakers** over the weekend.
- Find out how to get your amateur radio **Callsign** and **Licence**!
- LIVE CONTACT with the **International Space Station**.
- **Open Day / Show & Tell** – showcasing Vintage and State of the Art equipment.
- Free Soldering **Workshops** for kids.
- **Demonstrations** of various modes of amateur radio including satellite tracking, Echolink / IRLP & others.
- Great **Giveaways** and **Door Prizes**.
- Interesting **Displays** by the Royal Flying Doctors / SES / VK737 Outback Communications / etc.

Registrations NOW OPEN for the AGM and Gala Dinner via the WIA website.

Enquiries and Table Bookings contact
David - VK4DN -
Secretary B.A.R.C.
Phone: 0410 121 345



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Are you interested in becoming an amateur radio operator?

If you are interested in WIA membership, the Amateur Radio Magazine and what is going on in the amateur radio world, then check out the site at;

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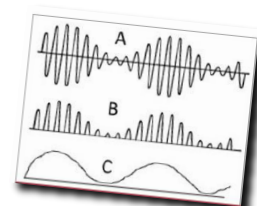
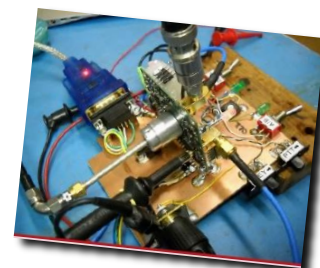
Magazine Reviews

Amateur Radio Magazine WIA Vol 92 Number 2

- P3 Contents
- P4 Editorial, Roger VK2ZRH. The change over to class licensing and the ACMA, also the post out system and public documentation of our license details.
- P5 Notice of AGM, 4th and 5th May, Bundaberg.
- P5 A Centenary. Richard VK2SKY. The late and great Tony Hancock would be 100 years old on 12th May this year, his famous “The Radio Ham” episode from 1961 is etched in many minds. Would it be PC these days, did it do AR any good or harm?
- P6 WIA News. Solar shenanigans, the changing activity level of emissions from old sol. Class license transition. Moorabbin, and slow morse contest in May. AGM Bundaberg.
- P9 Part 2 of WRC-23. Dale VK1DSH and Peter VK2EMR. The event in Dubai, covering various reports on the amateur spectrum, VHF and microwave resolutions.
- P13 Historic gem to visit in Victoria’s goldfields. Jules VK3JPF. A 2022 trip through central Victoria discovers the Talbot Arts and Historical Museum. Displaying among other things, historic radio, telephone and television equipment.
- P14 Listening In. Roger VK2ZRH. A look at the SINPO code and Q-Code as well as the release of the World Radio TV Handbook 2024.



- P15 Amateur radio isn't dying – it's persevering! Marc VK3OHM. An update to an earlier article, three years ago. Looking at data gathered over the years from various AR sources. It charts the population of AR licensees and the different levels of license, drawing to a conclusion about our hobby.
- P19 Hands-free rig operation by gesture and voice using low-cost modules. Lou VK3AQZ. Lou describes the development and construction of a system to control basically your rig almost hands free. Using Arduino controller and various modules available with a CI-V interface for Icom radios, the basic controls in your shack can be operated by voice or hand movements.
- P27 A GPS-controlled frequency reference to build, for the shack or in the field. Part 1. Paul VK3DIP. Using a GPS module to generate a 10MHz calibrated signal, great for checking the alignment of your homebrew or older ageing pieces of gear. An Arduino Nano is in the middle of the circuit along with some other modules to produce 10MHz standard and with a Si 5351 clock generator produce output from 10 – 160 MHz.
- P34 Multi-band, co-sited vertical antennas for low power operation on 17m and 12m bands. Doc VK5BUG. To keep the physical footprint of two antennas as small as possible, this design manages to keep these two antennas on the same vertical pole with minimum interaction.
- P38 Silent Key. Dr Leo F. McNamara, author "Radio Amateurs Guide to the Ionosphere"
- P39 Join the action on the 2mm bands. Part 2. Andrew VK3CV, WQ1S. Discusses the software operating system, configuration, and construction.
- P47 Homebrew three-band 100W HF transceiver. Part 3. Lou VK3AQZ's 100W transceiver. The VFO and Arduino sketch. Finally on air and some further possible features and refinements.
- P56 Silent Key. Wally Howse, VK6KZ.
- P58 Newcomer's Notebook. Jules VK3JPF. Reading and laying out simple circuit diagrams, some basic rules and understanding signal flow.
- P60 ALARA. Jenny VK3WQ. Class licenses, Monday night nets, ECHOLINK skeds.
- P61 Silent Key. Bob Heil. K9EID. Founder of HEIL Sound,
- P62 WIA DX Awards. Marc VK3OHM/VK3IP. Listing of new awards issued since last edition.
- P64 Below 25. Alec VK2MV. Travels with YOTA, Youngsters On The Air, and some new youngsters.
- P65 WestNews. Will McGhie. SK Wally Howse VK6KZ.



A vulture boards an airplane, carrying two dead raccoons.

The stewardess looks at him and says, 'I'm sorry, sir, only one carrion allowed per passenger.'

Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One turns to the other and says 'Dam!'

Silicon Chip April 2024 Review

- P16 Circuit Notebook. Temperature controller for a humidicrib, a refit of a Thermocot to a wildlife humidicrib. Experimenting with LoRa mesh networking, using ESP32 and SX1278 LoRa module to operate Meshtastic.
- P22 Becoming an Amateur Radio Operator. A very comprehensive article on the hobby of AR, showing the many varied aspects and activities of the hobby and some of it's technical aspects. Coverage from HF to Microwave activities, IOTA, WWFF and field days.
- P36 The Pico Gamer. A Picomite retro game console featuring among other things Snake, Pico Vaders and Pico Man using the RP2040-Plus microcontroller and 3.2" TFT screen.
- P49 Raspberry Pi Pico Digital Video Terminal. Part 2. Construction and program setup directions with a hint of future enhancements to the platform.
- P58 ROCK Model 4C+ Review. A single board computer that is compatible with Raspberry Pi ecosystem with extra features. A 6 Core Dual 1.5GHz ARM Cortex CPU combined with 4GB of RAM, USB2 and USB3 connectivity, 1Gbit Ethernet and the usual PWM, SPI and I2C I/O.
- P62 Skill Tester 9000. Part 1. A non-microcontroller version of the old game of skill with sound and LED indicators for players health and time. Description of the game's features and circuit diagram operation.
- P72 ESP32-Cam LCD Backpack. Using the Altronics ESP32 WiFi camera module, this article is about adding a screen. A 3.5" LCD screen and CP2102 USB-UART bridge is added to the camera.
- P79 Using a MEMS Microphone as a Reference Microphone. MEMS (Micro-electromechanical system) unit is combined with some simple circuitry to produce your own reference microphone.
- P82 Serviceman's Log. Power tool batteries, tractor electrics, and fixing some Dell power adapter cables without the Dell charger ID wires fitted.
- P90 Fender "Tweed" Bassman 5F6-a guitar amplifier from 1958. A retro look at a classic amplifier for the instrument fraternity. Classic valve architecture is highlighted and description of the operation of the system.



SPRAT Issue 198 Spring 2024 Review

- P2 Editorial. Steve G0FUW
- P3 Club Trophy Winners 2023. List of trophies to contributors to SPRAT with technical, operational and event articles.
- P4 Construction Competition 2023. A break down of how the construction projects compared over 2023.
- P5 Construction Competitions 2024 & 2025. Run down of the 50th anniversary of the G QRP Club and how members contributions can help celebrate.
- P6 EFHW-86432 Antenna. Raimund DL1EGR. Construction and setup of an EFHW in a limited backyard space.
- P7 Build Your Own Bender. Peter G4UMB. Some bit a pieces from the DIY/hardware store to make a simple panel bender.
- P8 Valve QRP Activity In Earlier Times. Chriz G3XIZ. A look at a 1928 radio magazine and the one valve transmitter description and its reported performance .
- P11 Cleaning Silver Plated Variable Capacitors. Patrick M0DDI. A home solution to cleaning these capacitors that sport a black tarnish.
- P12 Indoor Antennas – Extended & Enhanced? Robin G4IRD A discussion and pictures of indoor loop antennas of various makes and homebrew assemblies.
- P14 Valve QRP News. Paddy G4MAD. Report of valve rigs in operation and necessity to exercise care and diligence while working with high voltages.
- P16 The ART-6 (Amateur RT-6). Richard G0GGA. A two valve CW TX based on a 1950's Spy Tx known as the RT-6. Picture of it the fine job done in construction.
- P18 Keying WSPR On a One Valve Transmitter. Robert SM0YSR. A simple design to see if it could be done in a vacuum tube environment.
- P19 Using the ISM Bands. Roger G3XBM. Industrial, Scientific, and Medical (ISM) frequency usage. In the UK these bands can be used for beacons, with or without a callsign, if they are within IR2030 regulations.
- P20 The "Matchbox Marvel" Transmitter. Daimon G4USI. Starting with the Oxo transmitter design and massaging it to use equivalent parts and .putting it on air.
- P22 Antennas and feeding thoughts. Dave G6EGM. A discussion on antenna and balun integration in a relatively small area.
- P23 Mag. Loop Antenna On TV Led Support. Daniele IW3SOQ. Using a retired LED TV base, very heavy, to support a mag loop made from a "Hula Hoop".



- P24 The Active Antenna Loop. Geoffrey M0OOZ. A design using a differential amplifier configuration of discrete BJTs to obtain a gain of 20dB, available as a kit.
- P26 EAT32-Rx Follow-up. Philip G4HOJ. Further experimentation and corrections to the previous edition of SPRAT and the "Regenerodyne" receiver.
- P27 A Vape-Powered Oscillator. Andy G0SFJ. Using discarded "vape" batteries to power small QRP projects.
- P28 The "RF Sniffer Clip". Scott VO1DG. Don ND6T. Using LEDs and some simple construction to make RF sniffers to monitor your RF.
- P30 Membership News. Daphne G7ENA. Reminder if your membership is due. Privacy statement about G QRP database.
- P31 Members News. Chris G4BUE. News from a round the world about members and their recent and forth coming activities.
- P36 Activity Report. Enzo M0KTZ. Winter Sports 2023, Chelmsley Trophy 2023, Easter Egg-xpeditions 2024, International QRP Day, Suffolk Trophy, Summer Sizzler, G-QRP 50th Anniversary Special Event Stations, Weekly QRP Activity Slots. Join the QRP Reflector



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https://www.gqrp.com/memb_australia.htm

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